

CANNON BUILDING 861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF GAMING – JOINT SUNSET COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Thursday, October 5, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room B, second floor of the Cannon Building

APPROVED: October 7, 2010

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

James Greene, Chairman, DE Volunteer Fireman's Association Member Deborah Messina, Vice Chairperson, Public Member Scott Angelucci, Public Member Sharon McDowell, Public Member

### **DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT**

Robert Willard, Deputy Attorney General Kay Warren, Deputy Director Sandra Wagner, Administrative Specialist III

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Brad Barrie, Public Member

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Clinton Bunting, Charitable Games of DE Chip Thompson, Charitable Games of DE Tim Hamill, Middletown Sports Lounge

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Greene called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

#### **JOINT SUNSET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Greene addressed the Board and Public as to why the Board was holding this special Committee Meeting for the Joint Sunset Questionnaire. Mr. Greene asked Ms. Warren to go over the information in the Draft Questionnaire. Ms. Warren went page by page in the draft and asked questions directed to the Board when appropriate to do so. Ms. Warren said she would like to see the Statute in a clearer format. It seems that the same information is in different places. She feels that it is not easy to read or follow. The Board agrees with Ms. Warren. Mr. Willard stated that he will work with Ms. Warren to get everything formatted in a better way. Ms. Messina stated that she would like to see if some of the recommendations that were made back in 1990, that haven't been accomplished yet, to be looked into again to see if they still make sense to complete. Mr. Greene commented that one of the recommendations was to have the Charities submit an audited report of their operations within 45 days of the end of the year; Mr. Greene finds that this would be too much of a burden for the Charities to have to do. Under the challenges the Board has, Ms. Messina discussed the Investigative Process and when it would make sense to send a Letter of Concern or when that wouldn't be appropriate. This

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is something the Board will be discussing at the upcoming regularly scheduled meeting. Under this topic of investigations, Ms. Messina also mentioned that the process is taking to long to go through. Ms. Warren discussed with the Board that the Division is hiring more investigators, hearing officers, and a paralegal. Another challenge is the impact that the table games are having on the Charitable Organizations. The Board was wondering if maybe the Organizations can report how they are being affected by the table games. A question was raised about how the Board knows what is liked or disliked on matters. Ms. Messina said that they find out about what the Public likes and dislikes by the public comment section of the Board meeting. The Board is concerned about the term of an appointed member expiring on the date specified in the appointment and the member shall no longer be eligible to participate in Board proceeding unless lawfully appointed. This is something the Board definitely wants looked into. Most of the Division's other Board members that have completed their term stay on the Board until a replacement is found for the Board member leaving. A discussion of Third Party owners having background checks done was initiated by going over the criteria for determining qualification for licensure. The discussed why they feel this would be a good thing to put into place.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Clinton Bunting and Mr. Chip Thompson approached the Board with a packet of information they put together for the Board to review. In this packet they had some recommendations that they would like to see the Board consider while being under Joint Sunset Review. Mr. Bunting wanted it on the record that he doesn't operate the Charitable Games of DE for a profit. He doesn't care if he goes out of business. He does this as an advocate of the Charitable Organizations. His goal is for the Non-profits. They would like to see the limit raised on the games to go from \$150.00 to at least \$300.00. They feel this would help the organizations make more money for their Charity. Mr. Bunting also said he would like to see if maybe the Third Party Vendors should have to pay a registration fee. He also agreed with the Board about having background checks done. Mr. Thompson stated that maybe the current limit on how many hours they can play are changed from 6 hours to 8 hours. The Board thanked Mr. Bunting and Mr. Thompson for the well prepared packet for the Board's review.

Mr. Hamill of Middletown Sports Lodge commented on the derogatory comments coming from the Board members about the Third Party Vendors and organizations. Mr. Greene wanted it on the record that he is not here to pacify the Third Party Vendors. Mr. Hamill stated he is here representing himself and is in the business to help the Charities and will be in business next year at this time. He felt the attitudes of some of the Board members needed to be addressed in this review as well. Mr. Hamill brought up to the Board about proposing to deny the Delmarva Model Railroad Club and said that what they do is to educate people on the importance of railroads in Delaware and show models. He feels that this is helping the people of Delaware and should be considered charitable. Ms. Wagner stated that the Delmarva Model Railroad Club will be at the next meeting for a proposed to deny hearing in which they will have the opportunity to explain to the Board what they do and why they should be able to hold their event. Mr. Hamill felt that the Board singles out certain charities. Ms. Messina stated that some organizations are Non-profit only and that the Board is designed to help the Non-profit "Charitable" Organizations. Ms. Messina stated that the Board doesn't single out certain charities and that the Board issues permits to charities that meet the requirements of the Board.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Mr. Angelucci to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Wagner

Sandra Wagner

Administrative Specialist III